

Wilmann Esq.

Most dear and honoured Sir!

You would certainly have all occasion to be wondering about my very long silence, and I should feel most sorry on that account, if I was not informed by other friends that they had long ago told You the case. I shall not venture on Your patience to tell You the long and sad story, let me only say so much, that after having suffered for more than a year by a very acute chronic bronchitis, which finally was suppressed by the use of *Saccharum saturni* and *Digitalis*, the first named physic had the pernicious secondary effect of forming an immense internal abscess, which having been opened with the knife, proved to be of a most malicious nature and very painful; and after several months of curing formed a very obstinate fistula ani. A new and painful operation followed, and I have now been for more than six months confined to my bed, and still cannot see any termination of my pains. —

You will find it natural enough, that I have been obliged to put aside all my dearest occupations. Among these, the pleasure of selecting from my Mexican herbarium a first set of plants destined for You, to realize the long wished ^{for} interchange with You.

I have acquired for You the two mentioned works of M. Cahl,
which You wished occasionally to receive. I wish I did know
any other works which could be of interest to You that I might
send them. I hope You will receive— though so very late— my
most sincere thankgivings for Your splendid work on the Botany
of the expedition of Capt. Wilkie.

I had the pleasure to make the ~~personal~~ acquaintance of Mr. Bruce,
who passed an hour by my bedside, unfortunately I was unable
to show him any civilities. I beg You will recommend me most
cordially to the memory of Mr. Lowell, his excellent lady and Maria,
his daughters. I passed in their agreeable society a most pleasant
day.

You have put fire to my scientific interest by informing me about
Your newest work. Botany of the Northern United States, of which
You promised me a copy, but what shall I find to give You in
recompense for these precious works? I cannot deny the impatient
eagerness with which I am looking forward to the next
distribution of the Smithsonian Institution.

My work on Austro-American Oaks is going forward, in spite
of my sickness. Forty Folio copper plates are now engraved.

My dear Sir let me in concluding hope that I have not lost
any of Your good favours and believe me, among all my foreign
friends there are none on whose friendship and estimation
I put so high a price as on Yours.

Ever Yours most faithfully

J. Liebmann

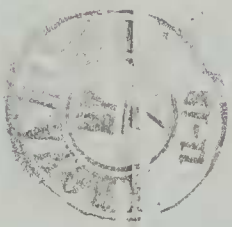
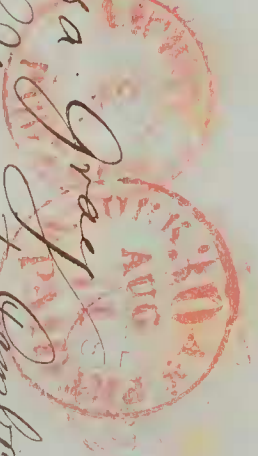
Bot. Garden at Copenhagen the 26 of Juli 1856.

57

To

9

Professor, Dr. Asa Gray
 at the Harvard University, Cambridge
 Mass
 Massachusetts United States
 America



12
 2/13